

*1 contd* (b) [c] comparing [said] the measured amount of the noncyclooxygenase derived prostanoids with a control; and

(c) [d] assessing oxidative stress in vivo based on the comparison in step c.

*4* 6. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the [to assess oxidative stress in vivo comprising:

(a) obtaining a] sample [of] is urine. [;

*2* (b) measuring the amount of noncyclooxygenase derived prostanoids present in the sample;

(c) comparing said measured amount of prostanoids with a control; and

(d) assessing oxidative stress in vivo based on the comparison in step c.]

*5* 7. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the sample is [to assess oxidative stress in vivo comprising:

(a) obtaining] a fresh sample of tissue. [;

*3* (b) measuring the amount of noncyclooxygenase derived prostanoids present in the phospholipids in the sample within about two hours of obtaining the sample, which is the amount of time it takes for the ex vivo development of prostanoids in the sample;

(c) comparing said measured amount of protanoids with a control; and

(d) assessing oxidative stress in vivo based on the comparison in step c.]

~~14.~~ A method as set forth in claim 1 further includes the step of [to assess oxidative stress in vivo comprising:

- (a) obtaining a stored] storing the biological sample prior to said measuring step. [of lipid containing biological fluid;
- (b) measuring the amount of noncyclooxygenase derived prostanoids in the sample;
- (c) comparing said measured amount of prostanoids with a control; and
- (d) assessing oxidative stress in vivo based on the comparison in step c.]

~~14.~~ A method of claim 1 wherein said measuring step is further defined as [to assess oxidative stress in vivo comprising]:

- [(a) obtaining a fresh sample of lipid containing biological fluid;]
- [(b)] (a) subjecting phospholipids in [the fresh sample of lipid containing] the biological sample [fluid] to reverse phase solid chromatography extraction using a C-18 cartridge;
- [(c)] (b) eluting prostanoids retained on the C-18 cartridge with a 1:1 mixture of ethyl acetate:heptane;
- [(d)] (c) maintaining the eluate of the phospholipids from the fresh sample of lipid containing biological fluid at -20°C;
- [(e)] (d) measuring the amount of noncyclooxygenase derived prostanoids present in the eluate of the phospholipids from the fresh sample of lipid containing biological fluid maintained at -20°C;

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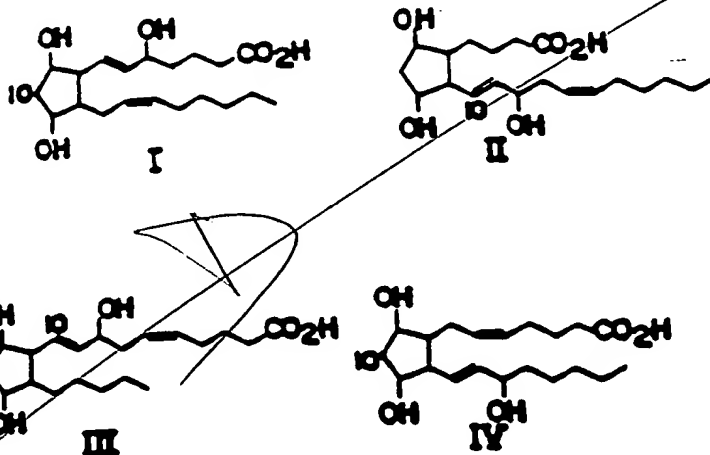
[(f)] (e) comparing said measured amount of prostanoids with a control; and

[(g)] (f) assessing oxidative stress in vivo based on the comparison in step b.

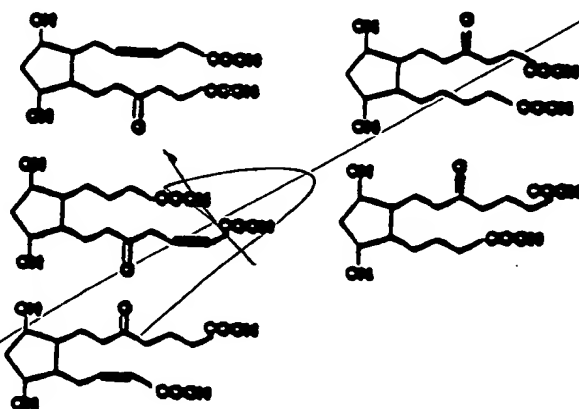
19. The method of [any of] claim[s] 1[, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, or 18] wherein measurement is by mass spectroscopy.

20. The method of [any] claim[s] 1[, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, or 18] wherein measurement is by immunoassay.

21. The method of [any of] claim[s] 1[, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, and 18] wherein said prostanoids are selected from the group consisting of:



22. The method of [any of] claim[s] 1[, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, and 18] wherein said prostanoids are selected from the group consisting of:



#### REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-7, 9-14, 19 and 20 remain in the application. Claims 1, 9 and 10 are in independent form.

Applicants have amended the claims in order to clarify the invention by limiting matters at issue, deleting unnecessary independent claims, and deleting unnecessary multiple dependent claims. More specifically, applicants have amended claim 1 to set forth a single generic claim claiming the method of assessing oxidative stress in vivo by measuring the amount of noncyclooxygenase derived prostandoids in a biological sample. Claim 1, as amended, encompasses fresh or stored, tissue or fluid samples. Thus, previously set forth independent claims which particularly claimed the sample to be urine, the sample to be fresh or stored, and the sample to be tissue are now set forth as dependent claims. Applicants have also canceled claims which are now redundant. Applicants have also amended claim 14 to